

*Office Memorandum* • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

**TO :** Training Officer, OCD

**FROM :** Assistant Chief, Industrial Register, OCD

**SUBJECT:** Professional Training Course, December 1951

**DATE:** 9 January 1952

1. The training course at Alcott Hall was attended by various representatives of IR. All have expressed the opinion that they derived much good from the courses and that the broader view of intelligence work enabled them to do a better job. The varied aspects of the Agency's operations as explained during the lectures gave to all who attended a sense of belonging to a worthwhile team. The knowledge that significant action often results from the spade work laboriously accomplished in Industrial Register has bolstered the morale of all who attended. The resultant understanding that the Agency possesses a good many brilliant men who are earnestly studying much the same or similar intelligence matter with often the same qualms and tribulations as are experienced at lower analytical levels served to induce a feeling of comradeship. The frankness expressed by all lecturers in handling what might be difficult or embarrassing questions was highly appreciated. The absence of any expression that most answers are already available gave encouragement to analysts by laying stress on the areas of worldwide intelligence not adequately covered.

2. The topics of the lectures were most interesting and were ably presented. Charts, maps, and graphs used as aids were well prepared and pointed. It is felt that lecturers with documented notes were able to present more meaty material in a shorter period than were those who spoke extemporaneously or with the aid of brief notes. The direct manner in which answers were given to all questions was highly appreciated.

3. Although it is recognized that lecturers are subject to other duties and cannot be too firmly bound to speaking engagements, it is believed that cancellations and changes in subject matter on short notice were the most difficult operational features of the course. On this point, however, it is felt that postponement is preferable to substitution of lecturers when high caliber lecturers can be obtained at a later date. The timing and spacing of the lectures was well organized from the IR point of view. Loss of working time was held to a minimum.

4. It is believed that periodic re-runs of the course enabling additional and new personnel to benefit from it would be desirable.

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